

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 336

By Evans

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the citizens of the City of Adams upon the fiftieth anniversary of the city's incorporation.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to join with the cities and counties that comprise this great State in celebrating joyous and historic occasions; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Adams are most assuredly deserving of special recognition as they celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the city's incorporation; and

WHEREAS, there were at least three incorporations of what is now known as the City of Adams. The Town of Adams Station was incorporated in 1869 and lasted until 1898. The town continued to operate and, in 1908, a second incorporation occurred, which lasted until 1935; and

WHEREAS, during this time, there were three banks, many stores, and a thriving Main Street, which included the railroad depot. Local mills at Port Royal and Hills Mills also bustled with activity. When the Great Depression hit Adams, the city functioned without a government and the local Men's Club paid the electric bill for the street lights. Charley Willette often paid to keep the town water pump operating for twenty-eight years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Adams was incorporated in May 1963 and now celebrates its fiftieth year of service to the community. The city operates under a City Manager-Commission Charter. The purpose for incorporation for both Adams and Cedar Hill was to secure funds for the establishment of a water system; and

WHEREAS, the Adams-Cedar Hill Water System was established in April 1967 and the system began pumping water in January 1969. The water system has grown throughout the years in both areas of responsibility and in the quality of service provided to its customers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Adams has had only three mayors during its fifty-year history. John Strange served as Mayor of Adams from its incorporation in 1963 until his death in 1987; Charles Rust served as Mayor from 1987 to 1989; and, in 1989, Omer Gene Brooksher began his tenure as Mayor, the position which he continues to serve with acumen and alacrity; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, Adams has become involved in many ventures to enhance the lives of its citizens. The people of Adams have benefitted from the 1963 incorporation in many ways; and

WHEREAS, Adams Volunteer Fire Department provides fire and emergency services to the Adams-Cedar Hill community, and has mutual aid agreements with adjacent communities. The city's twenty fire and emergency responders must promptly answer the call for any emergency situation that arises; and

WHEREAS, Adams boasts two city parks and a TWRA boat ramp to allow citizens and visitors the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and experience Red River. Adams looks forward in the near future to maintaining the Civil War site, Fort Redmond, soon to be acquired by the State of Tennessee. Plans for the site include providing a walking trail, a fishing pier, a visitor's center, and reconstructing the Civil War Blockhouse located on the grounds; and

WHEREAS, the city makes it a priority to improve housing for its citizens by pursuing grants and offering annual clean-up services. The city maintains streets and ensures safety of the people of Adams as well; and

WHEREAS, because Adams has a small-town feel and boasts many of its original buildings, it has hosted many music and movie producers, who have filmed along Main Street and other locations in the city. Some of the more notable visitors include Big & Rich, Brooks & Dunn, Keith Urban, Gretchen Wilson, Emmylou Harris, and The Band Perry, and films such as The Green Mile and Redemption Road; and

WHEREAS, the City of Adams also hosts a year-round schedule of festivals. From spring until the end of the year, the Bell School grounds are buzzing with activity, including

hosting the second-oldest Bluegrass Festival in the State of Tennessee and the Tennessee-Kentucky Thresherman's Show; and

WHEREAS, Adams is the home of Community Spirit, Inc., an organization committed to providing "edu-tainment" to its citizens and to visitors to the community. Annually, Community Spirit, Inc., performs plays about local history, including "SPIRIT," the story of the Bell Witch, and "SMOKE," the story of the tobacco wars in Robertson County; the organization also sponsors several other fall activities; and

WHEREAS, activities held on the Bell School grounds include Adams-Cedar Hill Recreation Club Baseball and Softball leagues, Movies in the Park in the summer, Fourth of July festivities hosted by the Adams Volunteer Fire Department, and Christmas in the Park during the month of December; and

WHEREAS, nestled between Springfield and Clarksville, with Guthrie, Kentucky, just down the road, Adams is ideally situated for those desiring the feel of country living and the convenience of nearby city amenities. The region's tobacco heritage is evident to all who visit, and the country roads are peppered with smoking tobacco barns and points along the Appalachian Quilt Trail, as well as the Civil War Trail; and

WHEREAS, the city's founding fathers served not only as leaders of Adams, but as leaders of Robertson County and the State of Tennessee. They devoted their lives to serve their community without any payment for their services, and they rallied others to participate in public service and government at all levels. Because of their vision and foresight, the city's future is bright and secure; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the city's leaders is to continue to enhance the services provided to the citizens of Adams and to provide a place for visitors from all over to come for "year-round country fun"; and

WHEREAS, cities such as Adams add immeasurably to the strength and character of Tennessee; their history and citizenry have helped to build the cultural richness and integrity for which this State is known; and

WHEREAS, the City of Adams is one of the great municipalities in Tennessee and it is most appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor this fine municipality

and its citizenry as they commemorate this significant milestone in their historic existence; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the citizens of Adams upon the fiftieth anniversary of the city's incorporation and extend to them our best wishes for continued success, growth, and prosperity in their outstanding community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.